

# EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE

## Patent Abstracts of Japan

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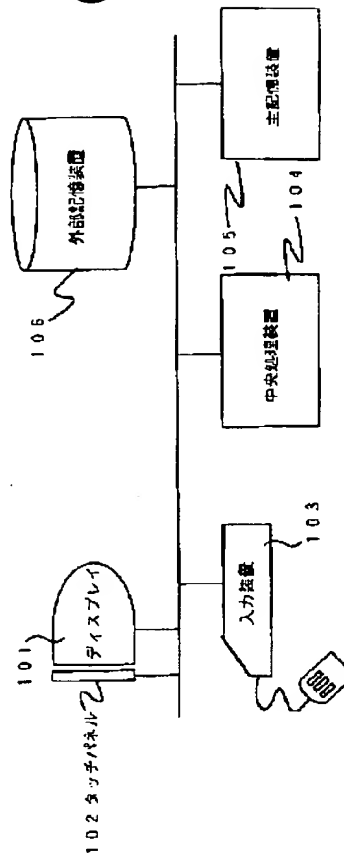
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TITLE : HIERARCHICAL MENU SYSTEM



ABSTRACT : PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To supply the situation of menu under selection among whole menus by simultaneously displaying a high-order menu at the time of displaying the menu situated in the order lower than the order of the menu that a user has selected.

SOLUTION: The lowest-order menu is displayed on a display device 101 in accordance with data of the highest-order menu, the low-order menu and the lowest-order menu, which are read in a main storage device 105. When the input of the user is the selection input of a menu item, the display area of the menu at the center of a display screen is moved to the peripheral part of the display screen while being slid, and it is finally set to be a non-display state when the low-order menu exists at the lower layer of the menu which is received. The low-order menu is associatively displayed and the display area of the low-order menu is moved to the center of the display screen while being slid. Thus, the high-order menu is simultaneously displayed at the time of displaying the menu existing in the order lower than the order of the menu that the user has selected.

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